



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 05 March 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

Daily Highlights

- The Better Business Bureau System is warning all businesses across the U.S. and Canada of a spoofing scam using the BBB name and a false BBB e-mail address to entice recipients to access potentially damaging hyperlinks. (See item [11](#))
- USA TODAY reports United Airlines is reviewing why a California-bound flight sat full of passengers for more than seven hours at Chicago O'Hare last weekend during an ice storm. (See item [14](#))
- Reuters reports rates of diabetes in Ontario — Canada's most populous, most ethnically diverse province — have already zoomed past what was predicted for 2030, which suggests the emerging global diabetes epidemic will be far worse than feared. (See item [28](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

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Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *March 02, Boston Globe* — **Two oil giants plunge into the wind business.** Two of the world's leading oil producers have almost overnight joined some of the biggest players in wind power in the United States, accelerating a trend of large corporations investing in the rapidly growing alternative-energy field. As global warming and clean fuels have gained more attention, Shell

Oil Co. and BP have accumulated impressive credentials. Shell is one of the nation's top five generators of wind power, while BP's Alternative Energy group — launched 16 months ago — aims to develop projects that produce 550 megawatts of electricity this year, one-sixth of the projected U.S. wind energy output in 2007. The oil companies bring enormous cash reserves, years of experience in large projects, and a can-do spirit to an alternative-fuels industry that has largely been driven by speculators, small developers, and utilities. Though environmentalists largely praise the interests of the two oil giants, they harbor suspicions of whether the energy giants are adding renewable sources to their portfolios as a way to enhance their reputations with consumers rather than to combat global warming.

Source: http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2007/03/02/two_oil_giants_plunge_into_the_wind_business/

2. *March 01, Canadian Press* — **Ontario hit by 'critical' shortage of diesel in wake of refinery fire.** Two major fuel suppliers are sounding the alarm for Ontario's trucking industry amid "critical" shortages of diesel fuel in the province. The fuel shortage, which has seen motorists inconvenienced for more than a week as gas pumps intermittently run dry, has forced Ultramar to suspend diesel deliveries to four Toronto-area service centers and three other Ontario cities — Hamilton, Cambridge and London. The fire last month at an Imperial Oil refinery in Nanticoke, Ontario, that set off the shortage has also left Husky Oil feeling the pinch. Several Husky locations in southern and northern Ontario are out of fuel and others are rationing inventory to 200 liters per transaction, the company said in a communiqué to customers. Both companies indicated that locations would remain open until the storage tanks were empty, but warned that they could not immediately be resupplied. Although Imperial Oil resumed crude oil processing Wednesday, February 28, at its the Nanticoke refinery, it has said production wouldn't be back to normal for two more weeks.

Source: <http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/breakingnews/canada/story/3897142p-4507097c.html>

3. *February 28, Associated Press* — **Mining official fields safety concerns.** More than a year after the Sago mine explosion that killed 12 miners, protections for miners who get trapped underground have not yet been implemented, the United Mine Workers (UMW) president said Wednesday, February 28. UMW President Cecil Roberts testified during a Senate Appropriations subcommittee hearing in which senators questioned Richard Stickler, head of the nation's mine safety agency, about the speed at which mining reforms enacted last year have been put into place. Forty-seven miners died last year in the United States — the highest toll since 1995. Following the deaths at Sago in West Virginia early 2006, along with a string of other deaths, Congress passed the first major overhaul of mine safety laws in three decades. Stickler acknowledged that not all aspects of the law had been met, but he said the Mine Safety and Health Administration agency is working to comply under the timelines set in the law.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2007/02/28/national/w161032S61.DTL&type=politics>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

4.

March 02, Hartford Courant (CT) — **Intense factory fire prompts traffic diversions.** Dozens of Hartford, CT, firefighters fought an intense factory blaze for more than two hours in the city's North End Thursday night, March 1. No one was injured in the fire at Machinery Services LLC, a machine shop in a brick building at 837 Windsor St. The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was also called to the scene because of concern over smoke toxicity. DEP officials said air tests showed no dangerous levels of toxic materials, but there were concerns that hazardous cleaning solutions were washed down the sewers. The building contained hazardous materials such as sodium hydroxide. Nearby residents were urged to remain indoors. There were also propane tanks inside the building. Police blocked nearby intersections and diverted traffic away from the fire.

Source: http://www.courant.com/news/local/nc/hc-hfdfire0302.artmar02_0.937193.story?coll=hc-headlines-nc

5. *March 02, Associated Press* — **Police investigate Hazmat spill on interstate.** Police are investigating a truck accident on Interstate 84 near Burley, ID, that dumped several gallons of sulfuric acid across the highway and closed the westbound lane for about three hours Wednesday night, February 28. They're not sure why the truck tipped at the I-84 junction with Interstate 86. No injuries were reported in the accident, although two 55-gallon drums of sulfuric acid were punctured in the wreck.

Source: <http://montanasnewsstation.com/Global/story.asp?S=6167733>

6. *March 02, Local 12 (OH)* — **Hazmat crews clean up flipped tanker truck.** Hazmat crews worked to clean up an overturned tanker in Warren County, OH, Friday morning, March 2. The rig flipped around 9:30 p.m. EST Thursday on State Route 122 between 741 and Hart Road in Turtlecreek Township. The tanker truck was carrying diesel fuel. The spill did not cause any evacuations. The crash shut down Ohio 122 at 741.

Source: http://www.local12.com/mostpopular/story.aspx?content_id=64a9b023-7fb7-46db-8cdd-de3d6eb0adbb

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *March 02, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-281: Defense Inventory: Opportunities Exist to Improve the Management of DoD's Acquisition Lead Times for Spare Parts (Report).** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has identified the Department of Defense's (DoD) management of its inventory as a high-risk area since 1990 due to ineffective and inefficient inventory systems and practices. Management of inventory acquisition lead times is important in maintaining cost-effective inventories, budgeting, and having material available when needed. Under the Comptroller General's authority to conduct evaluations on his own initiative, GAO analyzed the extent to which (1) DoD's estimated lead times varied from actual lead times, and (2) current management actions and initiatives have reduced lead times as compared to past years. To address these objectives, GAO computed the difference between the components' actual and estimated lead times, and compared component initiatives to reduce lead times for 1994-2002 to 2002-2005. GAO recommends that DoD take actions to improve the accuracy and strengthen its management of lead times, such as review lead time data to detect and correct errors, review and revise the methodology used for setting

lead times, set lead time reduction goals, and direct the components to measure and report the impact of initiatives to reduce overall lead times within each of the military components.

Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07281high.pdf>

Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-281>

8. *March 01, Department of Defense* — **Defense leaders: Budget requests to support current, future needs.** The defense budget request before Congress reflects what's required to ensure the United States can defend itself and its people against current and future threats, Deputy Defense Secretary Gordon England told Congress Thursday, March 1. England joined Navy Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Tina Jonas, Department of Defense comptroller, in briefing the Senate Budget Committee about three defense budget requests that add up to \$716.5 billion. The fiscal 2007 emergency supplemental appropriation request calls for \$93.4 billion for the terror war. In addition, President Bush's fiscal 2008 budget request includes a \$481.4 billion base defense budget request and \$141.7 billion for terror war funding. England told the committee request for wartime funding during fiscal 2008 represents the department's best prediction, but that it could rise or fall depending on how the war proceeds.

Source: <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/NewsArticle.aspx?ID=3233>

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Banking and Finance Sector

9. *March 03, CNET News.com* — **Your Wi-Fi can tell people a lot about you.** Simply booting up a Wi-Fi-enabled laptop can tell people sniffing wireless network traffic a lot about your computer—and about you. Soon after a computer powers up, it starts looking for wireless networks and network services. Even if the wireless hardware is then shut-off, a snoop may already have caught interesting data. Much more information can be plucked out of the air if the computer is connected to an access point, in particular an access point without security. There are many tools that let anyone listen in on wireless network traffic. These tools can capture information such as usernames and passwords for e-mail accounts and instant message tools as well as data entered into unsecured Websites. People who have the option of using a Virtual Private Network when connected to a wireless network should use it to establish a more secure connection, experts suggest. Also, on home routers WPA, or Wi-Fi Protected Access, offers improved security over the cracked WEP, or Wired Equivalent Privacy.

Source: http://news.com.com/Your+Wi-Fi+can+tell+people+a+lot+about+you/2100-7355_3-6163666.html?tag=nefd.top

10. *March 02, TCPalm.com (FL)* — **Phishing scam targeted military retiree.** A resident of Treasure Coast, FL, got an e-mail Wednesday, February 28, that said direct deposits of his military pension would stop if he didn't immediately call a toll-free number. The e-mailer claimed he was a customer service representative with Bank of America Military Bank. Robert Stewart, an 85-year-old veteran living in Palm City, gets his pension deposited into a First National Bank checking account. Curious, his wife Lana Stewart called the number and heard a recording that asked her to enter the 16-digit number on a checking or debit card. She hung up before entering the information. "It sounds very legitimate when you call, and it's a very simple procedure," she said. Bank of America spokesperson Betty Riess confirmed Thursday what

Stewart suspected — her husband was likely the target of a type of e-mail scam known as phishing. By Thursday afternoon, the official-sounding recording at the number was gone, replaced by a message saying phone service had been suspended.

Source: http://www.tcpalm.com/tcp/local_news/article/0..TCP_16736_53_87680.00.html

11. *March 01, Better Business Bureau* — **Better Business Bureau issues alert for phishing attack.** The Better Business Bureau (BBB) System warns all businesses across the U.S. and Canada of a spoofing scam using the BBB name and a false BBB e-mail address to entice recipients to access potentially damaging hyperlinks. In February, a firm had its computer system hacked and that firm's system generated thousands of counterfeit messages to businesses and consumers, purporting to be a complaint filed with the BBB. Recently, another firm was hacked and similar emails have been received by businesses across the country. The attack has not affected the computer system of any BBB nor have any of their data been compromised. As with most other phishing attacks, the perpetrators have attempted to pose as a respected business to gain the confidence of phishing victims. The BBB is working with authorities to thwart these malicious attacks. All recipients are advised that any e-mail from the consumer-complaints@bbb.org address is not coming from any BBB and should be considered counterfeit.

Source: <http://www.bbb.org/alerts/article.asp?ID=747>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

12. *March 03, CNN* — **Focus turns to left-side exit lane in bus tragedy.** Highway safety experts investigating the crash of the Ohio baseball players' bus, on Friday, March 2 — which killed six and injured 29 — will study whether the design of a left-side Interstate highway exit may have been a factor in the accident, an official said Saturday. The bus, which was being driven by a fresh driver during an overnight trip, drove up a left-side exit on Interstate 75 just north of downtown and crossed a multilane highway overpass before crashing through a guardrail and plunging onto the highway below, said National Transportation Safety Board Member Kitty Higgins. "We know that there have been numerous accidents at Exit 252 for Northside Drive," Higgins said, referring to the accident site, where a high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane and an exit lane run side by side. "We are also interested in the history of the HOV lane and exit ramp design and will be looking at the signage, highway markings and other motorist warning devices that were available before exiting at that particular spot." The bus was not equipped with an electronic data recorder that might have provided more information about the last seconds before the fatal crash, Higgins said.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/03/03/bus.crash/index.html>

13. *March 02, Department of Transportation* — **Statement from DOT regarding tentative U.S.-EU Open Skies Agreement.** The Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Mary E. Peters said, "The U.S. and the EU have come together today to open our skies and expand the freedom of air travel between the world's two largest aviation markets. Our agreement will offer more choice and convenience to American consumers, promote new growth in our aviation industry and support our continued economic expansion. I look forward to working with my counterparts within the European Union to rapidly finalize this historic agreement for

the benefit of travelers and shippers, airlines, airports and our respective economies.”

Additional information on the Open Skies Agreement:

http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070302/eu_us_open_skies.html?.v=3

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot2507.htm>

14. **March 02, USA TODAY — United looking into why passengers were stuck on jet for seven hours.** United Airlines is reviewing why a California-bound flight sat full of passengers for more than seven hours at Chicago O'Hare last weekend during an ice storm. The incident came less than two weeks after a Valentine's Day ice storm in New York stranded hundreds of passengers aboard planes at John F. Kennedy Airport for up to 10 hours. Nine flights operated by JetBlue, the largest JFK airline, sat for six hours or more, prompting calls for legislation to prevent recurrences. Chicago-based United, the nation's No. 2 airline, confirmed Thursday, March 1, that a Saturday flight to San Francisco with 181 passengers aboard sat from before 5 p.m. CST until after midnight. During that time, the Boeing 757 was de-iced three times and repeatedly waited in line for takeoff until the pilots gave up and canceled the flight. "We apologize for the length of time one of our flights was on hold with passengers on board," United spokesperson Jean Medina said Thursday, March 1. She said United is "continuing to look at ways we can be more consistent" with flights during severe weather events. The airline has apologized individually to the passengers involved and is sending them travel vouchers that can be used on future United flights.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-03-01-united-usa_t_x.htm

15. **March 01, Reuters — British Airways eager to join consolidation.** British Airways wants to take part in global consolidation but expects regulatory hurdles to hinder cross-border deals, Chief Executive Willie Walsh said on Thursday, March 1. Separately, chief executives of American Airlines and Finnair anticipated more fund-led buyouts in the industry after Australia's Qantas agreed to an USD\$8.7 billion takeover by a consortium including Macquarie Bank. The global airline sector has seen a wave of consolidation attempts, such as a failed bid by US Airways Group for Delta Air Lines and merger talks between United Airlines and Continental Airlines. Heavy international regulation, over-capacity in some regions, rising fuel prices, and terrorism have all undermined earnings and driven several airlines into bankruptcy in recent years. "I think the industry will definitely benefit from it (consolidation), and British Airways would definitely want to participate in it," Walsh said on the sidelines of a briefing by oneworld airline alliance members. "But I think we need a regulatory framework that will facilitate it and we don't have that right now."

Source: <http://news.airwise.com/story/view/1172784094.html>

16. **March 01, Jacksonville Business Journal (FL) — Bullets on cruise ship in Florida trigger inspection.** Coast Guard inspectors and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers conducted an expanded security inspection on the Carnival Cruise Lines' ship Celebration after two .22-caliber bullets were found there Thursday morning, March 1. A passenger turned in the ammunition at an information desk after she found it in a lobby on the ship while passengers were disembarking, according to Coast Guard officials. Coast Guard inspectors and CBP officers verified that X-ray machines and metal detectors at security check points on the ship and at the JAXPORT Cruise Terminal were working. The Jacksonville, FL-based, Panama-flagged Celebration can carry 1,486 passengers and has a crew of about 679 people.

Source: <http://jacksonville.bizjournals.com/jacksonville/stories/2007/02/26/daily32.html>

17. *March 01, Thanh Nien Daily (Vietnam)* — **Vietnam Airlines flight attendant grounded for carrying radioactive substance.** Vietnam Airlines has suspended a flight attendant who has been under investigation after she was found carrying a slightly radioactive substance last month. Customs officers of Noi Bai Airport in Hanoi found the substance on February 11 after noticing a suspicious-looking box in the baggage of Nguyen Thi Ninh Giang, who was to attend a flight to Vientiane. Giang, who had worked for the national flag carrier for six months, said an acquaintance had asked her to bring the box to Laos right before she went to the airport for the flight. VnExpress newswire reported that the small plastic cylinder box was covered with lead paper. It contained a “small technical device,” the report said. According to the Nuclear Science Institute, it contained a slightly radioactive substance, which is prohibited from being carried aboard airplanes.

Source: <http://www.thanhniennews.com/society/?catid=3&newsid=25640>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *March 01, USPS news release* — **Postal Service to employ state-of-the-art technology to improve delivery capabilities.** The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has moved forward with another initiative to improve its delivery capabilities by awarding an \$874,639,000 contract to build a sophisticated system that will sort “flats” — large envelopes, magazines, newspapers, catalogs and circulars — in the order in which they are delivered. Letter carriers today spend a portion of their workday manually sorting flat mail, a labor-intensive process. The Flat Sequencing System (FSS) — designed in collaboration with Postal Service engineers — sorts mail in delivery sequence at a rate of 16,500 pieces an hour, helping letter carriers start delivering mail earlier in the day. A pre-production FSS will be installed and tested in Dulles, VA, in August, and nationwide deployment of 100 systems will begin in summer of 2008.

Source: http://www.usps.com/communications/newsroom/2007/pr07_018.htm

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Agriculture Sector

19. *March 02, Canadian Press* — **Nine Saskatchewan farms quarantined after mistakenly getting prohibited feed.** Nine Saskatchewan farms and as many as 8,000 cattle, deer and other ruminants have been quarantined. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency shut down the farms after ruminant meat and bone meal was accidentally shipped to those farms from a Saskatoon feed mill. Those materials have been banned from feed since 1997 as part of rules to protect against the spread of mad cow disease.

Source: <http://www.canada.com/topics/news/agriculture/story.html?id=542580b4-36f7-4f30-9f8c-5c05e71877a8&k=97846>

20. *March 02, Globe and Mail (Canada)* — **Fish farms linked to sea lice outbreak.** For the first time in Canada, scientists have used data from the world's largest aquaculture company to draw a link between sea lice from Atlantic salmon on British Columbia fish farms and soaring

infection rates in wild salmon migrating nearby. After an infestation caused the near collapse of wild spring salmon stocks in the Broughton Archipelago in 2002, Craig Orr, executive director of the Watershed Watch Salmon Society, collected information from the Norwegian company Marine Harvest on sea lice at its fish farms in the region. "We had predicted 3.6 million [wild] salmon returning to the Broughton in 2002. What we got back, according to the [Department of] Fisheries and Oceans count, was 147,000 fish — a 97 percent crash that was only in the Broughton," said Orr. Watershed Watch is a non-governmental organization that monitors British Columbia water systems.

Source: http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20070227.BC_LICE27/TPStory/National

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Food Sector

21. *March 02, CBC News (Canada)* — **Cookies recalled amid tampering probe.** Kraft Canada is warning the public not to consume products from certain packages of Christie Chewy Chunks Ahoy! cookies that may have been tampered with. The company said Thursday, March 1, a sharp metal object may have been used to contaminate the cookies and it has notified police, who are investigating. Stores in Quebec and Ontario are recalling them from shelves.
Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/consumer/story/2007/03/02/cookies-recall-070302.html>

22. *March 02, Associated Press* — **Japan halts imports from U.S. meatpacker.** Japan will suspend beef imports from a U.S. meatpacker after finding packages of beef sausage in a shipment in violation of a regulation imposed over mad cow concerns, the government said Friday, March 2. The Ministries of Health and Agriculture said inspectors at the port of Kobe found 188 boxes of beef sausage in a shipment sent by Jobbers Meat Packing Co. among a 1,108-box shipment of sausages made from chicken, turkey and pork. Japan bans the import of U.S. products such as sausage that contain processed beef under restrictions aimed at controlling the threat of mad cow disease. The beef sausage boxes were not listed on the accompanying documents issued by U.S. Department of Agriculture inspectors, the ministries said.
Source: http://www.in-forum.com/ap/index.cfm?page=view&id=D8NK34780&forumcomm_check_return

23. *March 01, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Fruit trays recalled.** Simply Fresh Fruit Inc. is recalling Simply Fresh Fruit Fresh Cut Fruit trays due to possible salmonella contamination. On February 23, Simply Fresh Fruit Inc. was notified by Castle Produce that cantaloupe shipped by Castle to Simply Fresh Fruit Inc. on February 16 was subject to a recall due to possible Salmonella contamination. Persons infected with Salmonella may experience a variety of symptoms and illnesses. The cantaloupe was processed into 2,250 trays of five-pound fresh cut fruit and distributed by Costco throughout Los Angeles, CA, metropolitan areas. Costco was notified on February 23 and the product was removed immediately from sale; there have been no reported illness from consumption of this product.
Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/simplyfresh03_07.html

24. *March 01, Associated Press* — **FDA links plant to salmonella strain.** Federal inspectors found the strain of salmonella behind a recent food–poisoning outbreak at the ConAgra Foods Inc. plant that made the tainted peanut butter, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said Thursday, March 1. Beyond the Sylvester, GA, plant, the strain also has been isolated from open jars of the company's peanut butter and some of the 370 people who have fallen ill in the outbreak, the FDA said. ConAgra on February 14 recalled all Peter Pan and Great Value peanut butter made at the Georgia plant after federal health officials linked the product to an outbreak that began in August. The recall now includes all such products made since December 2005, the FDA said. On Thursday, the FDA said the company had sent bulk Peter Pan peanut butter to its plant in Humboldt, TN. There, it was incorporated into various ice cream, sundae and shake toppings.
Source: http://news.aol.com/topnews/articles/_a/fda-links-plant-to-salmonella-strain/20070301210609990001

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Water Sector

Nothing to report.

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Public Health Sector

25. *March 02, Agence France–Presse* — **Bangladesh to immunize children against polio.** Bangladeshi health officials plan to immunize 24 million children under five against polio in a nationwide operation Saturday, March 3, after fresh outbreaks, an official said. More than 140,000 health centers will be opened across the country and some 700,000 volunteers have been mobilized to conduct the program. Many of them will go door–to–door and set up mobile teams at train and bus stations and airports, the government's immunization program manager, Abdul Qader, said. Bangladesh had been unofficially polio–free since 2000 after the government carried out a series of immunization drives against the virus. But 17 new cases have been reported since January last year.
Global Polio Eradication Initiative: <http://www.polioeradication.org/>
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070302/hl_afp/healthbangladesh_polio_070302104808

26. *March 02, Arizona Republic* — **Man with tuberculosis may be jailed in Phoenix.** A man infected with an especially virulent strain of tuberculosis (TB) has spent eight months in a hospital jail ward under a court order and may be held until he dies. Robert Daniels has not been charged with a crime, but the 27–year–old violated the rules of a voluntary quarantine, exposing others to a potentially deadly illness. Maricopa County, AZ, public health officials got a court order to keep him locked up. Daniels' hospital room is designed so that air flows in, never out, to prevent the bacterium from spreading. Daniels, who has dual citizenship in the U.S. and Russia, contracted extreme multidrug resistant tuberculosis while living in Russia, court records show. He was diagnosed two years ago in Russia, and said he came to Phoenix in January 2006 after being told drugs were hard to get and expensive.
Resistant tuberculosis information: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/tb/default.htm>

Source: <http://www.tucsoncitizen.com/daily/local/43554.php>

27. *March 02, Agence France–Presse* — **Bird flu fight is hit–and–miss across Asia.** Bird flu is on the march again across Asia as winter ends, but the battle against the virus is being hobbled by stark differences between the region's diverse countries, health experts warn. While Vietnam and Thailand have been hailed as poster adverts in the fight against avian influenza, new cases in hotspot Indonesia and population giant China have highlighted concerns the disease will be hard to stamp out. Many Asian nations have learned much since the H5N1 strain erupted in 2003, spreading as far as Europe and Africa last year, but gaps remain and the threat of a pandemic remains real, epidemiologists say. Bird flu is now popping up in new areas, and risk factors for transmission have increased, said He Changchui, the Asia–Pacific head of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). "Last year it seemed we had more association with migrating wild birds, but this year we are also finding trade and the movement of poultry across borders played a very large role," he said. Yet while some countries, aided by international aid and know–how, have set up extensive surveillance networks, new laboratories, vaccination drives and education campaigns, other countries lag far behind.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20070302/hl_afp/healthfluasia_070302065721;_ylt=AugmsNbf9S1X6UP1mo.m.LOJOrgF

28. *March 02, Reuters* — **Canada diabetes epidemic predicts worse for world.** Rates of diabetes in Canada's most populous province have already zoomed past what was predicted for 2030, which suggests the global epidemic will be far worse than feared, researchers reported on Thursday, March 1. They found a 69 percent increase in the rate of the disease in Ontario between 1995 and 2005 — far beyond the 60 percent global predicted increase for 2030 and above rates projected for Canada by then. Lorraine Lipscombe of the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences in Toronto and colleagues examined health–care databases for Ontario, the most–populated and ethnically diverse Canadian province. "In view of this linear growth in prevalence, more than 10 percent of the adult population of Ontario will be diagnosed with diabetes before 2010," they said. "If similar trends are occurring throughout developed countries, then the size of the emerging diabetes epidemic is far greater than anticipated."

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/healthNews/idUSN0140746620070302>

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Government Sector

29. *March 03, Decatur Daily (AL)* — **Decisions on dealing with severe weather difficult for school officials.** West Morgan High School Principal Bill Hopkins, who is responsible for about 700 students, hopes his superintendent makes the right decisions for their safety. But he understands how difficult making the right decision is. "All you can do is watch the weather and use your best judgment," Hopkins said. School officials across Alabama are re–evaluating safety plans following the tornado that hit Enterprise High School in and killed eight on Thursday, March 1. Are students safer at home or at school? That's a dilemma for parents. Hopkins said he prefers students to be at home during a storm. He said the odds increase that someone will get hurt when people are concentrated in one area. Decatur City Schools Supervisor of Safety Phil Hastings said Morgan County Emergency Management officials inspected Decatur's school buildings for safe and unsafe areas during a tornado. Also, the state

requires that schools hold a tornado drill at least once a month. School officials said the unpredictable and unstable weather conditions Thursday led to ending classes early or calling them off entirely. In The Daily's coverage area, five of the six school systems sent students home between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. local time.

Source: <http://www.decaturdaily.com/decaturdaily/news/070303/deal.sh tml>

30. *February 28, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-407: Architect of the Capitol: Committed, Sustained Leadership Needed to Continue Progress (Report)**. The Architect of the Capitol (AOC) is responsible for the operation, maintenance, renovation, and new construction of the Capitol Hill complex, including the U.S. Capitol, the Library of Congress, and the Senate and House Office Buildings. In 2003, at the request of Congress, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) issued a management review of AOC that contained recommendations designed to help AOC become more strategic and accountable. Subsequently, Congress directed GAO to monitor AOC's progress in implementing recommendations. This is the fourth status report on AOC's progress and summarizes GAO's assessment of AOC's overall progress and remaining actions in becoming more strategic and accountable, including AOC's responses to specific recommendations GAO made in January 2003 and subsequently. To assess AOC's progress, GAO analyzed AOC documents; interviewed AOC officials; and relied on the results of related GAO reviews, including reviews of the Capitol Visitor Center. AOC generally agreed with GAO's assessment of its progress, but noted that two additional recommendations — one on financial management practices and one on collecting worker safety data — should be considered implemented. GAO acknowledges AOC's efforts in these areas, but maintains that further steps are necessary to fully implement these recommendations. Highlights: <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07407high.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-407>

31. *February 28, Federal Computer Week* — **New group to coordinate homeland security intelligence**. Starting March 1, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officials will receive federal intelligence through a new coordinating group established to focus the information in a way that meets those officials, needs and to unify federal policy on threats to public order. Lora Becker, incoming director of the interagency federal state and local threat reporting and assessments coordination group, said the group would not generate alerts, warnings or updates on homeland security threats. Its analysts will provide strategic assessments of threats and disseminate them through established routes, such as the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Forces and the dozens of technology-rich state information fusion centers. Becker spoke along with other information-sharing specialists during a panel on state fusion centers at the Armed Forces Communications and Electronic Association Homeland Security 2007 conference. Becker cited the "need for a unified voice" in federal communications to local, state and tribal law enforcement and first responders. The new coordinating group is a policy initiative established under the federal intelligence reform law that established the Information Environment project. That law, known as the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act, also consolidated the federal intelligence community under the director of national intelligence.
Source: <http://fcw.com/article97794-02-28-07-Web>

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Emergency Services Sector

32. *March 03, Federal Emergency Management Agency* — **President declares major disasters for Alabama and Georgia.** The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Alabama to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes on March 1, 2007. FEMA Director David Paulison said the assistance was authorized under a major disaster declaration issued for the state by President Bush. The President's action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in Coffee County. Additionally, federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Georgia to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes during the period of March 1–2, 2007. Paulison said the assistance was authorized under a major disaster declaration issued for the state by President Bush. The President's action makes federal funding available to affected individuals in Sumter County.
Source: <http://www.fema.gov/news/recentnews.fema>
33. *March 02, Department of Homeland Security* — **Homeland Security tests first responder credential capabilities.** The Department of Homeland Security Office of National Capital Region Coordination and the Department of Defense Pentagon Force Protection Agency joined public and private sector participants February 15 in a demonstration to validate the functionality of the First Responder Authentication Credential. The demonstration, known as Winter Storm, was a multi-jurisdictional test to verify the integration and interoperability of credential system attributes such as qualifications, authorizations, certifications, and privileges. More than 50 organizations, in over 20 locations across the United States, including the National Capital Region, actively participated in Winter Storm. Participants and observers viewed details on a commercially available mapping program that gave local, regional, and nationwide emergency operation centers real-time situational awareness of first responders.
Source: http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1172866131042.shtm
34. *February 28, GovExec* — **FEMA urged to improve grants management.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) emergency preparedness division need to improve oversight and management of grants, lawmakers told agency officials Wednesday, February 28. The calls for improvement come about a month before FEMA is slated to receive more responsibility for distributing grants. Matt Jadacki, DHS deputy inspector general for disaster assistance oversight, said FEMA "historically has had significant problems tracking, monitoring and closing mission assignments." Jadacki also told the subcommittees that FEMA has weaknesses in acquisition and planning and that "insufficient numbers of acquisition personnel" hindered its contract management in response to Katrina. Still, FEMA Director R. David Paulison said, the agency is on the verge of filling out each of 10 regional director positions for "the first time in anybody's memory." He said he is aiming for "a strong mix of career people in this organization," including at the procurement office.
Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36226&dcn=to daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36226&dcn=to%20daysnews)

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

35. *March 02, Reuters* — **Sanyo to share battery recall cost with Lenovo.** Troubled Japanese electronics maker Sanyo Electric Co. said on Friday, March 2, it would shoulder with China's Lenovo Group the cost of recalling 205,000 Sanyo-made laptop battery packs that can overheat. The ThinkPad battery recall comes during an investigation of loss-making Sanyo by Japan's securities watchdog the Securities Exchange and Surveillance Commission. The lithium-ion extended-life battery packs, jointly designed by Lenovo and Sanyo and tested by Lenovo, can overheat and spark if dropped hard on to the ground, the two companies said.
Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2099929.00.asp>
36. *March 02, CNET News* — **FCC: Local phone companies must connect Net calls.** In a boost to Internet phone providers, federal regulators have ruled that local telephone companies must connect Net-based calls shuttled over broadband lines owned by wholesalers like Sprint Nextel and Verizon Communications. In a 16-page order to local telephony providers issued Thursday, March 1, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) effectively overturned decisions by state regulators in South Carolina and Nebraska that had prevented Time Warner Cable from deploying its voice-over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service there. FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said the states had misinterpreted federal telecommunications law. "Our decision will enhance consumers' choice for phone service by making clear that cable and other VoIP providers must be able to use local phone numbers and be allowed to put calls through to other phone networks," Martin said in a statement Thursday. Time Warner Cable, the nation's second-largest cable operator, had petitioned the FCC for relief about a year ago.
FCC's order: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-07-709A_1.pdf
Source: [http://news.com.com/FCC+Local+phone+companies+must+connect+N
et+calls/2100-7352_3-6163789.html?tag=nefd.top](http://news.com.com/FCC+Local+phone+companies+must+connect+Net+calls/2100-7352_3-6163789.html?tag=nefd.top)
37. *March 02, ComputerWorld* — **Feds hope to boost business role in slowing cyberattacks.** As reports of cybersecurity incidents grow, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials plan to improve their ability to work on the problem face to face with private-sector experts. The DHS plans to co-locate private-sector employees from the communications and IT industries with government workers at the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) facility, said Gregory Garcia, assistant secretary of cybersecurity and telecommunications at DHS. The teams will work jointly on improving US-CERT's information hub for cybersecurity, Garcia said. The agency didn't specify a starting date for the program but said it will begin soon. US-CERT is a four-year-old DHS-run joint effort of the public and private sectors to protect the nation's Internet infrastructure. "It's through this co-location that we are going to build a strong trust relationship, an information-sharing relationship," said Garcia.
Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewA
rticleBasic&articleId=9012132&source=rss_topic85](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9012132&source=rss_topic85)
38. *March 01, eWeek* — **Month of PHP bugs begins.** Security expert Stefan Esser has declared war on vulnerabilities in the PHP core with the "Month of PHP Bugs." PHP is an open-source HTML embedded scripting language used to create dynamic Webpages. The month-long effort is an attempt to improve the security of PHP. It follows his contentious departure in December from the PHP Security Response Team, which he founded, after he accused The PHP Group of being too slow to fix problems. Esser stressed, however, that he is not striking back at his old colleagues but is addressing legitimate security issues.
Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2099735.00.asp>

39. *March 01, eWeek* — **March Madness expected to threaten network security.** March Madness may be a great time for college basketball fans, but it can be a nightmare for enterprises when it comes to network security. Earlier in 2007, Super Bowl fans logging on to the Dolphins Stadium site faced an unwelcome surprise — malicious code embedded in the header on the front page that when downloaded initiated a keylogging program. Researchers at Websense are warning enterprises to expect more of the same, while other security specialists urged companies to be mindful of the Web surfing habits of their employees. "Using current events as a means of deception in order to get people to visit a Website, in itself, is not anything new," said Dan Hubbard, vice president of security research at San Diego-based Websense. "What is compelling here is the potential for another Super Bowl incident, where attackers combine a special event with a compromise. In that case there is no need for the deception lure."
- Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1895.2099714.00.asp>
40. *March 01, Information Week* — **Worm attack: A grudge match with Symantec?** A worm is getting an awful lot of attention for a piece of malware that several anti-virus vendors have rated as a "low" threat. The Rinbot worm, which also is known as the Delbot worm, hit the computer network at the Turner Broadcasting System, a division of Time Warner and parent of CNN and CNNMoney.com, according to a company spokesperson. A story on the CNN.com Website said the network was hit on Thursday, March 1. It's not clear how much the worm impacted the network. The worm, which is trying to build a botnet, also was getting quite a bit of play because it targets Symantec, a leading anti-virus software vendor. While the worm does exploit a vulnerability in Symantec client security, it also goes after Microsoft's Windows Server Service remote buffer overflow vulnerability and Microsoft's SQL Server user authentication remote buffer overflow vulnerability. Paul Moriarty, director of Internet content security at TrendMicro, notes that all three vulnerabilities have been patched. The worm can only get a foothold in company networks or individual machines if they have not been updated.
- Source: http://www.informationweek.com/security/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=DPMJVDEPAX0MOQSNDLRCKHSCJUNN2JVN?articleID=19770061_1
41. *March 01, SecurityFocus* — **Maynor reveals missing Apple flaw.** Security researcher David Maynor got some measure of vindication at the Black Hat DC Conference this year. Six months after the security researcher and his colleague Jon Ellch claimed that Mac OS X wireless drivers were vulnerable to attack, Maynor on Wednesday, February 28, revealed the code he used to exploit a native flaw in the platform as well as e-mails showing he notified Apple as to the danger. Maynor said the flaw was in the driver for the Broadcom wireless chip. The flaw affected not only Mac OS X, but any platform that used drivers based on the Broadcom reference driver, he said. While MacBooks and PowerBooks were affected, so were Dell laptops running Windows XP. Apple fixed the flaw on September 21, but did not give Maynor or Ellch credit. The flaw could have allowed a remote attacker to compromise a vulnerable MacBook or PowerBook remotely via an overly long service set identifier.
- Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/news/11445>

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

42. *March 03, Malaysia Sun* — **Colombia to help in World Cup security.** Colombia has joined India, the U.S. and a number of other countries in providing security for the ICC World Cup held in the West Indies starting this month. The Colombian team would support the security force put in place across the nine countries in the Caribbean where the World Cup would be held and would also assist with canine-explosive detection and events protection. The World Cup is being seen as a potential target for terrorists, and India, England, Pakistan, South Africa, and Sri Lanka are the key security risks. A 16-member team from India's elite National Security Guards (NSG) will be flying in next week to carry out anti-sabotage checks at all cricketing venues and will stay here in the West Indies right through the course of the World Cup. Earlier, the U.S. provided \$3 million for training, largely of security personnel. The money was used in providing 80 training classes on port security, airport security, bomb detection, healthcare sector management, resource management, traffic management, VIP protection, and disaster management. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has also facilitated the installation of the Advanced Passenger Information System for the purposes of ensuring greater security during the World Cup.

Source: http://story.malaysiasun.com/index.php/ct/9/cid/b8de8e630faf_3631/id/231811/cs/1/

43. *March 02, Associated Press* — **Ammo, weapons, tunnel found in California home.** More than one million rounds of ammunition, a cache of weapons, and a tunnel were found at a man's home after an explosive fire that forced a neighborhood evacuation, authorities said Friday, March 2. Crews worked to fortify the tunnel, which measured five feet wide by eight feet long, to ensure it was safe. It appeared to be at least 10 feet deep and led into a backyard, authorities said. The fire Thursday afternoon at the home in Norco, about 45 miles east of Los Angeles, caused some of the ammunition to explode. After the blaze was extinguished, crews discovered metal and wooden boxes of ammunition for shotguns, small handguns, and assault rifles. On Friday, sheriff's deputies and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives combed the house for evidence. The man, whose identity was not released, was taken to a hospital where he will receive a psychological evaluation.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/03/02/ammo.found.ap/index.html>

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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